

# TOWN COUNCIL

TRUMBULL, CT  
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## MINUTES

March 5, 2007

**CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the Trumbull Town Council was called to order at 8:01 p.m. by Chairman Mark Altieri. All present joined in a moment of silence and the pledge of allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** The clerk called the roll and recorded it as follows:

Steve Lupien	John Sowka	Kathleen Bivona
Michael Rappa	John DelVecchio, Jr	Carl Massaro
Jane Deyoe	Debbie Lamberti	Tom Ragonese
Mary Ellen Lemay	Perry Molinoff	Chad Ciocci
Mary Beth Thornton	Mark Altieri	Dan Helfrich
Jeffry Jenkins	Matt Reale	Charles Pitcher
John Rotondo	Martha Mark	

**ABSENT:** Dan Marconi

\* Chairman Mark Altieri exercised his right not to vote unless otherwise noted.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Moved by Mr. DelVecchio, seconded by Mr. Lupien to accept the Minutes of the February 5, 2007 as presented.

**VOTE:** Adopted unanimously

On behalf of the Town Council, Chairman Mark Altieri welcomed Rushab Momaya of Boy Scout Troop #67 who attended as part of the requirement for the Citizenship in the Community merit badge. Scout Momaya was warmly applauded by Council and the many citizens in attendance.

**ENERGY EFFICIENCY PRESENTATION:** Nate Matschke of the School System's T.A.G. Program explained that overall, the Town is pretty energy efficient; however, there are things it can do to become more so. For example, not all the buildings use CFL's (Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs). Some of the windows are not thermo pane and there is a lack of insulation in the older buildings which results in energy loss and higher consumption, particularly in the schools.

We can stop global warming by becoming more energy efficient and he urged the Town to serve as a role model for others. He recommended replacing the incandescent light

bulbs with CFL's, re-caulking the buildings to create a tighter seal to keep in the heat and replace the single pane windows with thermal panes. Mr. Matschke received a warm round of applause from Council and the many citizens in attendance.

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT – FY 2005-2006: Scott Bassett, Audit Partner with McGladrey & Pullen explained his firm was engaged to perform an independent audit of the Town for FY05-06. Their unqualified opinion this year was consistent with the last few years. The overall financial results for the Town were positive. The fund balance remained at a stable rate and the tax collection rate is 99%. There were no material deficiencies and a new purchasing policy has been put into effect.

Moved by Mr. Lupien, seconded by Mr. Molinoff to take TC21-158 out of order.

Item 6.       **RESOLUTION TC21-158:** Moved by Ms. Bivona, seconded by Mr. DelVecchio

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Trumbull Early Childhood Education Center Building Committee is hereby disbanded and its members are commended for a job well done.

Committee report: Education Committee met on March 1, 2007 and voted 6-0 to recommend.

Preschool Building Committee Chairman Steve Wright explained that the committee has completed its task. He thanked the following committee members Dave Briganti, Debbie Lamberti, Debbie Boles, Doreen Wheeler, Connie Nickson, Lori King, Lori Hayes-O'Brien and former members Barry Unger, Steve Lupien and Joan Mehlhorn. He thanked Council for giving them the opportunity to serve on this committee.

Architect Jill Wiles explained that the school was built in 8 months. Bismark Construction put the shovel in the ground in December and worked through an inclement winter. The ribbon-cutting was in August and despite the small time frame, they stayed within the sustainable design. Energy efficient light systems and recyclable building materials were used. Large overhangs reduce the heat in the warmer months.

A parent who has a child in the program stated that the program is a priceless part of the school system and a jewel for Trumbull. She and her family are very pleased with the growth and progress her child has shown since entering the program.

VOTE: Adopted unanimously

Moved by Mr. Lupien, seconded by Mr. DelVecchio to take TC21-159 out of order.

Item 7.       **RESOLUTION TC21-159:** Moved by Mr. Molinoff, seconded by Mr. Pitcher

BE IT RESOLVED, That the scope of the Trumbull High School Building Committee is hereby expanded to include a "like new" renovation.

Committee report: Education Committee met on March 1, 2007 and voted 6-0 to recommend the resolution which was amended to read:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the scope of the Trumbull High School Building Committee is hereby expanded to include a “like new” renovation. The Trumbull High School Building Committee is further directed to incorporate the US Green Building Council’s Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (“LEED”) Green Building Rating system (version 2.1 or latest version) to achieve the LEED silver level of certification throughout the design, construction, and operation of the renovated building. This LEED level of certification shall be upheld by commissioning to ensure the long term operation of the building complies with this standard. If a Silver LEED standard is determined to be not cost effective (life-cycle) or not achievable then an alternative design that incorporates as many High Performance Building Principles as possible, as outlined in the LEED Silver Standard, may be submitted to the Town Council for approval.

Committee report was accepted as an amendment with unanimous consent.

Bill Leahy, Director for the Institute for Sustainable Energy in Eastern Connecticut State University stated last year a law was passed that requires State buildings to meet the Silver LEED level and his group is working to require the same of municipal buildings. The experience of other surrounding States that have these requirements has been that during the initial years, 2% -3% more is spent primarily during the design phase; however, the savings in a Silver building can be 30%-40% of the energy used in a standard building making it cost effective. These building are healthier, can reduce staff and student absenteeism, the acoustics, indoor air quality and temperature settings are all better and contribute positively to learning. For every \$1.00 spent, \$70.00 are saved through reduced energy consumption, lower health insurance costs and an increase in the productivity of the graduates according to a study done by the American Federation of Teachers, American Institute of Architects, American Lung Association, Federation of American Scientists, and the U.S. Green Building Council.

VOTE: Amendment passed unanimously

Trumbull High School Building Committee Chairman Jim Nugent stated that this resolution will authorize his committee to look at the school as a whole; something they have not been able to do before. It will allow them to consider the “like new” renovation of the existing building as well as any further additions, like a pool or gymnasium. If given the “like new” charge tonight, his committee will seek qualifications from professionals who will provide designs and prices. After gathering that information, the committee will then make their recommendation to the Town.

Bill Silver and Dean Petrucelli of Silver Petrucelli Associates explained their firm has handled the conversion of the science labs and the additions which are currently under construction. Mr. Petrucelli is a THS graduate and remembers the difficulty he had getting through the hallways of the school and based on those memories, developed the concept of the double corridor network.

The firm has done an analysis of improvements that are needed in M-Wing and for the Arts and Technology Programs. They also did a quick analysis of how to integrate the addition of a swimming pool and a gymnasium. Some of the work is for Physical Education program improvements. There are elements in the school which do not have to be touched, like concrete masonry and flooring; however, anything that is not expected to last 20 years, like the heating and ventilation system, would be done.

Chairman Nugent explained that when the high school first opened there was an “open campus” policy. During their free periods, students were allowed to leave the campus which meant that the full population was never at the school all at the same time. That policy is no longer in effect which means the full student population is in the building at the same time. Some of the rooms that were originally used as classrooms have been taken over by other mandated programs that didn’t exist years ago, like computer labs and special education centers.

Chairman Steve Wright explained that a Survey Committee has been formed. They are waiting for this vote and if the resolution is passed, they will survey the community. He believes the questions will be in regard to community use of the facility.

Minority Leader Carl Massaro is concerned about the cost and believes a good job can be done for less money.

Town Treasurer Anthony Musto explained the tax implications of the project as determined by the Capital Improvement Committee.

VOTE: Adopted 18-1 (Opposed: Massaro) as amended

Moved by Mr. Lupien, seconded by Mr. DelVecchio to make this emergency legislation.

2/3 vote needed for passage

VOTE: Adopted unanimously

Chairman Altieri called for a recess at 9:23 p.m.

Mr. Altieri reconvened the meeting at 9:33 p.m.

Item 1.       **RESOLUTION TC21-143:** Moved by Mr. Lupien, seconded by Mr. DelVecchio

BE IT RESOLVED, That Frank Scifo of 6 Friar Lane, be and the same, is hereby reappointed as an alternate member of the Ethics Commission for a term extending to the first Monday in December, 2008.

Mr. Helfrich returned to the meeting at 9:33 p.m.

Committee report: Education Committee met on March 1, 2007 and voted 6-0 to recommend.

Mr. Pitcher, Mr. Ragonese, Mr. Molinoff and Mr. Rotondo returned to the meeting at 9:34 p.m.

2/3 vote is required for passage

VOTE: Adopted unanimously

Item 2.       **RESOLUTION TC21-154:** Moved by Mr. Pitcher, seconded by Mr. Reale

BE IT RESOLVED, That Simone Ruotolo of 18 Nuthatch Hill Road in the Town of Trumbull be and the same is hereby appointed a member of the Trumbull Day Commission for the term ending the first day of September, 2007.

Mr. Lupien left the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

Committee report: R&R Committee met on February 26, 2007 and amended by changing Ms. Ruotolo's name to Diane Simone Ruotolo. They voted 2-0 to recommend as amended.

Committee report was accepted as an amendment with unanimous consent.

VOTE: Passed unanimously

VOTE: Adopted unanimously as amended

Item 3.       **RESOLUTION TC21-155:** Moved by Mr. Jenkins, seconded by Ms. Deyoe

BE IT RESOLVED, That Alex Robinson of 106 Pinewood Trail in the Town of Trumbull be and the same is hereby appointed an alternate to the Board of Finance for the term ending the first Monday in December, 2009, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Michael London.

Committee report: R&R Committee met on February 26, 2007 and voted 2-0 to send without recommendation.

Mr. Massaro explained the committee sent without recommendation because at the time of their vote, the seat had not yet been vacated.

VOTE: Passed 11-0-7 (Abstentions: Pitcher, DeVecchio, Helfrich, Thornton, Ragonese, Rappa, Molinoff)

Moved by Mr. Ciocchi, seconded by Ms. Mark to make this emergency legislation.

2/3 vote needed for passage

VOTE: Failed 7-6-5 (Opposed: Rotondo, Bivona, Pitcher, Helfrich, Molinoff, Rappa;  
Abstentions: Lemay, Thornton, Ragonese, DelVecchio, Reale)

Item 4.       **RESOLUTION TC21-156:** Moved by Mr. DelVecchio, seconded by  
Mr. Pitcher

BE IT RESOLVED, That Resolution TC21-145 is hereby amended to correct the term expiration for Cathleen Blanchfield as a member of the Land Acquisition & Preservation Committee, to the first Monday in December, 2011.

Committee report: R&R Committee met on February 26, 2007 and voted 2-0 to recommend.

VOTE: Adopted unanimously

Item 5.       **RESOLUTION TC21-157:** Moved by Mr. Massaro, seconded by  
Ms. Thornton

BE IT RESOLVED, That \$1,152,540 is hereby appropriated for the renovation, replacement and expansion of the Town's public school facilities and equipment, and authorizing the issue of \$1,152,540 bonds of the Town to meet said appropriation and pending the issuance thereof the making of temporary borrowings for such purpose.

Committee report: Finance Committee met on February 27, 2007 and voted 3-0 to recommend.

VOTE: Adopted unanimously

School Plant Coordinator Al Barbarotta requested this item be made emergency legislation because they'd like to start the needs assessment right away.

Moved by Mr. Jenkins, seconded by Mr. DelVecchio to make this emergency legislation.

2/3 vote needed for passage

VOTE: Failed 13-1-4 (Opposed: Massaro; Abstention: Ciocci, Sowka, Ragonese, Molinoff)

Item 8.       **RESOLUTION TC21-160:** Moved by Mr. Sowka, seconded by  
Mr. Reale

BE IT RESOLVED, That \$2,500 is hereby appropriated from the unreserved fund balance to Fire Marshal Overtime Account 01022800-501105.

Committee report: Finance Committee met on February 27, 2007 and voted 3-0 to recommend.

VOTE: Adopted unanimously

Item 9.       **RESOLUTION TC21-161:**  Moved by Ms. Lemay, seconded by Mr. DelVecchio

BE IT RESOLVED, That Lynn Heim, Director of Finance is hereby authorized to negotiate and execute all necessary Agreement/Contract documents on behalf of the Town of Trumbull with the Department of Transportation of the State of Connecticut for the Elderly and Disabled Demand Responsive Transportation Expanded Program, and to affix the corporate seal.

Committee report: Finance Committee met on February 27, 2007 and voted 3-0 to recommend.

VOTE:  Adopted unanimously

Item 10.       **RESOLUTION TC21-162:**  Moved by Ms. Mark, seconded by Mr. Sowka

BE IT RESOLVED, That \_\_\_\_\_ is hereby appointed as Independent Auditor for fiscal year 2006-2007.

Committee report: Finance Committee met on February 27, 2007 and amended by inserting the name McGladrey & Pullen. They voted 3-0 to recommend as amended.

Committee report accepted as an amendment with unanimous consent.

VOTE:  Passed

VOTE:  Adopted as amended

Item 11.       **RESOLUTION TC21-152:**  Moved by Mr. Rotondo, seconded by Ms. Bivona

BE IT RESOLVED, That the settlement of a Worker's Compensation Case known as Robert Lessard v. the Town of Trumbull is hereby authorized.

Item withdrawn by Town Attorney Dan Schopick

New Business: Mr. Ciocci submitted a resolution pertaining to the Frenchtown Elementary School Building Committee.

Mr. Helfrich moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. DelVecchio. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:52 p.m. with unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorrie Lusebrink,  
Council Clerk

